

**From:** Robert Davis  
**To:** US DOJ  
**Date:** 12/12/01 11:33am  
**Subject:** U.S. v. Microsoft

To whom it may concern:

My name is Robert Davis, I am an Architect and I live in Denver, CO. I am not a "technical" person as far the computer industry goes, just an end user. I purchased my first computer, a Commodore 64 back in about 1981. I then migrated to Apple's Macintosh, then to Windows on Intel, and now in light of Microsoft's illegal monopoly actions, I've just begun a transition to the Linux operating system. I'm probably somewhat atypical from most in that I've used multiple operating systems during my experiences. Based on this experience I've seen many small, innovative software companies come up with some very good applications. What I now observe is that Microsoft keeps rolling the same functionality into Windows and effectively killing all other competition. I don't see this as good for America. To their credit they have been successful in standardizing the computing experience somewhat. I have read on various internet news sites that the proposed settlement terms allow Microsoft to determine if a company is legitimate before they have to share some of their inner workings with them. The case has been made that the "Open Source" movement would not be viewed as such and therefore can be discriminated against. This movement looks to be the greatest hope of breaking Microsoft's monopoly yet and needs to be able to stand on equal footing. I respectfully request that you implement meaningful reforms for Microsoft without infringing on free enterprise and the American way. Please consider:

1. Don't give MS a foot-hold in our schools were Apple seams to compete reasonably well.
2. Don't allow MS to withhold code, API's, etc. from the Open Source folks.
3. Force MS to unbundle "middleware" from Windows or sell a "stripped" down version.
4. Scutinize MS's plans to provide broadband internet access to America via MSN.
5. Formulate remedies with teeth.
5. Watch them like a hawk!

Thank you for this opportunity to voice my views.

Rob Davis